

Kentucky Agriculture Resource Development Authority

Meeting Minutes

JUNE 20, 2001

Sharon Furches, Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m., at Curtiswood Farms in Paris, KY. The home of board member Genie Hart.

Members Present:

Sharon Furches, Chair; Dr. Harold Benson; John Fritz; Genie Hart; Larry Jeffries; Scott Kuegel; Dr. Curtis Absher representing Dean Scott Smith; Doug Lawson; George Martin; Glen Massengale; Beth Whisman representing Sam Moore; Bill Payne; Harvey Mitchell representing Commissioner Billy Ray Smith; Will Southerland; David Switzer; Representative Roger Thomas and Bettie Wallace.

Members Absent:

Terry Ashby; Morris Cave; John-Mark Hack; Senator Ernie Harris; Keith Harris; Billy Joe Miles; Terry Rhodes and Martha Thompson

Others Present:

Biff Baker with Legislative Research Committee.

Staff Present:

Joel Neaveill and Angela Whitehouse.

Sharon Furches, Chair began meeting by expressing the board's gratitude to member Genie Hart for hosting the meeting at her home.

Mr. Glen Massengale motioned to approve the minutes of the March 20th meeting. Bettie Wallace seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

Joel Neaveill updated members on the Long Range Planning meetings being held across the state. Mr. Neaveill informed members of the meeting being held on July 10th and 11th at the Seelback Hilton Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky. This meeting is a working session for the Governor's Long-Term Plan for Kentucky's Agricultural Development.

Larry Jeffries, Chair for the Kentucky Agriculture Resource Development Authority Legislative Committee requested board members to express any specific legislative issues they had to Sharon Furches or himself to take back to Representative Roger Thomas for the next legislative session. Mr. Jeffries informed members about a program preserving farmland through purchases of long-term conservation easements, which amounts to buying the development rights to farmland. The program is known as PACE, Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements, and its goal is preservation of farmland in the Commonwealth. Brochures are available at County Extension Offices throughout the state that explain the program.

Genie Hart, Chair for the Kentucky Agriculture Resource Development Authority Marketing Committee discussed ideas on agricultural broadcasting programs to be aired on Kentucky Educational Television involving a variety of vendors and field days on different farms throughout the state. Ms. Hart along with the marketing committee recommended a centrally located purchasing facility for agricultural products grown and made throughout the state of Kentucky.

Sharon Furches, Chair recommended Martha Thompson and Genie Hart as representatives for Kentucky Agriculture Resource Development Authority to work with Kentucky Educational Television on these ideas.

Sharon Furches, Chair updated board on educational ideas discussed by the education committee. The education committee recommended using Kentucky Educational Television as a tool to educate the public on agricultural products and current issues going on in the state.

Harvey Mitchell, with the Kentucky Department of Agriculture informed the board that there are seventy Farmers Markets statewide. Mr. Mitchell stated that the Kentucky Department of Agriculture has one person designated in establishing farmers markets across the state.

Sharon Furches, Chair recommended the next meeting date for the Kentucky Agriculture Resource Development Authority would be in mid to late October.

With no further discussion, the board adjourned at 3:30 p.m.